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Letter dated 20 March 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council

I have the honour to inform you that Belize wishes to become a member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti.

The Government of Belize has long been, and remains, actively committed to the social, political and economic development of Haiti. Belize contributed to the international efforts of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (1993-1996), as well as to regional efforts through the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), starting with its initial support for Haiti's membership in CARICOM in 2002. Belize was also at the forefront of, and facilitated, the reactivation of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti in 2004.

Today, of the 15 members of the Advisory Group, only 3 are Caribbean States: the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago and Haiti itself. Belize now wishes to join the Group as well. This would not only increase the representation of the Caribbean therein but also, more importantly, allow Belize, having historically been involved in Haiti, to contribute its experience to the Group's valuable efforts aimed at fostering conditions for the peace, security and sustainable development of our sister nation.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Economic and Social Council, under agenda item 12 (d).

(*Signed*) Lois M. **Young**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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